

Serial No.: 10/727,237
Art Unit: 2629

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

Please cancel claims 19 and 20 without prejudice.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for directing user eye track assisted pointer positioning, the computer readable program code in said computer program product comprising:

computer readable program code that is responsive to input received from an eye tracking apparatus for causing the computer to automatically move a visual pointer from a first location to a second location of a visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation; and

computer readable program code for causing the computer to provide a visual indicator in the visual display between the first location and the second location.

2. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially linear display element.

3. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially circular display element.

4. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator provides visual continuity between the first location and the second location of the visual pointer.

5. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator enables the user to determine the first location of the visual pointer.

6. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator provides a current location position of the visual pointer.

7. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the visual indicator comprises an animation.

Serial No.: 10/727,237
Art Unit: 2629

8. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein automatically moving the visual pointer to the second location is based on perceived user intent as inferred from the user's detected eye orientation.
9. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein a reading guide is provided to a user for assisting the user in reading display text.
10. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the reading guide comprises an open bracket.
11. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the reading guide is positioned in a margin of the displayed text.
12. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the reading guide is positioned to the left of a line being read.
13. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein the reading guide scrolls a page of text automatically.
14. (Original) A computer program product as in claim 1, wherein automatically changing the reading guide to a visual pointer is based on sensing the user's linear eye movements.
15. (Original) A computer system comprising:
 - a processor;
 - a visual display coupled to said processor;
 - said processor comprising an input for receiving a signal from an eye tracking apparatus, the eye tracking apparatus for monitoring a user's eye movements as the user views the visual display;
 - said processor automatically moving a displayed visual pointer from a first location to a second location of the visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation, and
 - providing a visual indicator in the visual display between the first location and the second location.
16. (Original) A computer system as in claim 15, wherein the visual indicator comprises a substantially linear display element.
17. (Original) A computer system as in claim 15, wherein the visual indicator comprises a reading guide for assisting the user in reading displayed text.
18. (Original) A computer implemented method for eye track assisted pointer positioning

comprising:

operating an eye tracking apparatus to monitor a user's eye movements as the user views a visual display;

detecting a user's eye orientation, relative to the visual display;

automatically moving a visual pointer from a first location to a second location of the visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation, and

providing a visual indicator in the visual display between the first location and the second location.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 18, wherein the visual indicator provides visual continuity between the first location and the second location of the visual pointer.

22. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 18, wherein automatically moving the visual pointer to the second location is based on perceived user intent as inferred from the user's detected eye orientation.

23. (Original) A computer implemented method for eye track assisted pointer positioning comprising:

operating an eye tracking apparatus to monitor a user's eye movements as the user views a visual display;

detecting a user's eye orientation, relative to the visual display;

providing a reading guide to the user for assisting the user in reading displayed text; and

automatically moving the reading guide from a first location to a second location of the visual display that corresponds to the user's eye orientation.

24. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 23, wherein the reading guide comprises an open bracket.

25. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 23, wherein the reading guide is positioned in a margin of the displayed text.

26. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 23, wherein the reading guide scrolls a page of text automatically.

27. (Original) A computer implemented method as in claim 23, wherein automatically changing

Serial No.: 10/727,237
Art Unit: 2629

the reading guide to a visual pointer is based on sensing the user's linear eye movement.

28. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 18, further comprising:

automatically changing the visual indicator to a reading guide in response to the eye tracking apparatus recognizing a user's eye movement pattern as a read mode, where the reading guide is located in a margin at the beginning of a line of text that is read;

automatically repositioning the reading guide to the beginning of a consecutive line of the text in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining the user approaches the end of a line of text; and

in response to the eye tracking apparatus determining that the user's eye movements are one of slowing down or stopping on a link in the text, exiting the read mode and changing the visual indicator to a pointer for a pointing device to enable the user to click on the link.

29. (New) A computer implemented method as in claim 28, where the visual indicator is one of a linear retro guide and a pulse and is not comprised of multiple mouse pointers.